(b) whether Government proposes to provide additional facilities at these stations; and

(c) whether Government has any plan to introduce fast trains during Commonwealth Games and if so, the details thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) Amritsar and Jallandhar City Railway Stations are "A-I" category stations and Ludhiana, Jallandhar Cantt and Chandigarh Railway Stations are "A" category stations. Minimum essential passenger amenities as per norms have already been provided at these stations. Work of modernization of Amritsar, Jallandhar City and Ludhiana stations has been completed recently, and work of modernization of Jallandhar Cantt and Chandigarh is planned for completion by March 2010.

Amritsar and Chandigarh stations have also been identified for development as World Class station.

(c) There is no proposal at present to introduce fast trains during the Commonwealth Games. However, Railways will make all efforts to clear the extra rush of passenger traffic during the Commonwealth Games keeping in view the operational feasibility, commercial justification and availability of resources.

Inconvenient additional berth in coaches

3373. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of trains in which inconvenient additional berth on the side in sleeper/III AC has been introduced; and

(b) by when these are proposed to be discontinued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) The policy of provision of additional (side middle) berths in Sleeper Class and AC 3 Tier coaches was reviewed by the Ministry of Railways. All such berths provided in the modified coaches have been removed.

Rules relating to demurrage charges

3374. SHRI RANJITSINH VIJAYSINH MOHITE-PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of rules relating to demurrage charges fixed for Central Railways in Sholapur division;

(b) whether the charges are different in case of goods like fertilizers, wheat, grains or other agricultural products in relation to consumption of rakes per day; and

(c) if not, whether Railways is planning to devise a flexible policy with respect to farmers or agricultural products for demurrage charges fixed by Railways in Central Railway division at Sholapur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Demurrage Charge is levied at prescribed rate for the detention of Railway's wagon(s) beyond permissible free time for loading/unloading of wagon(s). The detailed guidelines are contained in Rates Circular No.74 of 2005, as amended from time to time. These guidelines are uniformly applicable over all Indian Railways.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

Status of new railway track between Dindigul to Sabarimala

3375. SHRI B.S. GNANADESIKAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the status of proposal to lay new railway track between Dindigul to Sabarimala in Kerala which is a pilgrimage center *via* commercial town like Batlagundu, Theni, Cambam, etc.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government will initiate early steps to implement the 1st phase of the proposal within a time-frame; and

(d) the details of pending projects in Tamil Nadu and reasons for the delay of such projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) to (c) A survey for Dindigul-Sabarimala new line *via* Vattalkundu, Theni & Kambam was conducted during 1997-98. Survey report has been examined and it was decided not to take up this project.

(d) Details of pending projects in Tamil Nadu and reasons for delay of such projects are as under:-

Sl.No.	Ongoing Project	Status and target date for completion, wherever fixed
1	2	3
New line		
1.	Tindivanam-Gingee-Tiruvannamalai (70 Km)	State Government is yet to hand over required land. Work on 04 major bridges has been taken up wherever land is available.
2.	Tindivanam-Nagari (179.2 Km)	State Government is yet to hand over required land. Work on major bridge across Palar river taken up. Tenders for earthwork, minor bridges and road bridges awarded.